



**Rep. Andy Welch
R-110**

Biography

On November 2, 2010, the citizens of the 110 District elected Republican Andy Welch to the Georgia State House. Rep. Welch is married to Cara Welch and is a proud father of two children. He is an active member of the McDonough Presbyterian Church, serving on the Church's Endowment Committee. He is a partner in Henry County's oldest law firms - Smith Welch and Brittain, LLP, and is a native of Henry County.

Although Andy lives and works in Henry County, his family roots in Henry and Butts Counties run deep. The Welchs were early settlers of the Sandy Ridge area of Henry County, along Keys Ferry Road. His family maintains his Grandmother Cola Pope Welch's home and farm along the Ocmulgee River in Cork, Butts County.

Rep. Welch has a long history of commitment to his community, beginning with service projects as an Eagle Scout and most recently his service as the 2010 Chairman of the Henry County Chamber of Commerce. Before becoming Chairman, he served four years on the Chamber's Transportation Committee, three years of which as Chairman. During his tenure, the committee spearheaded the business community's push for creation and adoption of an award winning 2007 Henry County Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

Through 2008 and 2009, Andy worked on the Joint Henry County/Cities Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. He assisted in the identification of infrastructure improvements needed in Henry County to spur economic development. To begin implementation of the Strategy, he assembled a committee of public and private stakeholders to examine the need for and location of an industrial interchange on I-75 in Henry County to relieve congestion at I-75 exit 216 (Ga. Hwy 155). As the 2010 Chairman of the Chamber, Andy has focused the Chamber's attention on education, specifically on developing strategies to achieve the Board of Education's goal of 100% high school graduation by 2022.

Rep. Welch's record of service has not been limited to Georgia. While a student at Presbyterian College, he volunteered for two faith-based service missions to re-build homes ravaged by Hurricane Andrew. Immediately following college, Andy served an extended tour with the United States Peace Corps in Ghana, West Africa. There he taught high school sciences, coached soccer, and led the fund-raising and construction of a three-classroom schoolhouse to replace a grass-mat structure. Andy also serves on Congressman Lynn Westmoreland's Transportation and Aviation Advisory Council and United Community Bank's Henry-Rockdale Advisory Board.

Rep. Welch views his service to the constituents of the 110th District as an honor and a privilege.